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O R 062051Z MAY 94 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM USMISSION GENEVA AMEMBASSY KAMPALA AMEMBASSY NAIROBI AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS STATE 120676

NAIROBI-REFC GENEVA-RMA ROME-FODAG

E.O. 12356: N/A TAGS: PREF CG RW

SUBJECT: REQUESTED ASSESSMENT OF REFUGEE SITUATION IN EASTERN

ZAIRE

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GIVEN THE MAGNITUDE AND RAPIDITY OF THE RWANDAN REFUGEE INFLUX INTO TANZANIA, MOST OF THE REPORTING AND WORLD PRESS ATTENTION HAS BEEN FOCUSED ON TANZANIA IN RECENT DAYS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT UNHOR HAS MOVED THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM DISPATCHED TO GOMA TO WESTERN TANZANIA TO HELP COPE WITH THE REFUGEE EMERGENCY THERE. OUR OWN ADVANCE ELEMENT (FARNSWORTH/MESERVE) OF A DISASTER ASSISTANCE RESPONSE TEAM WILL ALSO BE FOCUSING ON THE TANZANIA EMERGENCY INITIALLY. (FYI. THE FARNSWORTH/MESERVE TEAM WILL LIKELY VISIT ZAIRE LATER THIS MONTH, BUT HAS SCHEDULED URGENT ASSESSMENTS IN TANZANIA, UGANDA, BURUNDI, AND HOPEFULLY RWANDA ITSELF BEFORE ZAIRE. END FYI.) WHILE REPORTING FROM ADDRESSEE POSTS HAS MOST HELPFULLY PASSED ON NEWS OF UNHCR, ICRC, WFP, AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY ASSISTANCE EFFORTS, WE

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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BELIEVE A FIRST-HAND ASSESSMENT IS NEEDED. IN ORDER TO ROUND OUT QUICKLY OUR CURRENT PICTURE OF REFUGEES FROM THE RWANDA CRISIS, DEPARTMENT REQUESTS EMBASSY/KINSHASA TO MAKE AN ASSESSMENT VISIT TO THE EASTERN BORDER AREA, FROM UVIRA TO GOMA.

- 2. WE ARE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN:
- -- THE PROTECTION ASPECTS, INCLUDING WHETHER THE BORDER
- IS OPEN (ON BOTH SIDES) TO WOULD-BE REFUGEES;
- -- ADEQUACY OF CURRENT ASSISTANCE EFFORTS AND WHETHER THERE IS A FIRM, REALISTIC PIPELINE OF RELIEF SUPPLIES, PARTICULARLY FOOD;
- -- STATE OF CONTINGENCY PLANNING FOR ADDITIONAL INFLUXES OF RWANDAN AND/OR BURUNDI REFUGEES;
- -- THE IMPACT OF NEW REFUGEES ON EXISTING ETHNIC TENSIONS UNCLASSIFIED

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IN ZAIRE;

- -- A COMPLETE A PICTURE AS POSSIBLE OF ALL OF THE PLAYERS AND THEIR RESPECTIVE ROLES; AND
- -- QUALITY OF COORDINATION AMONG THE PLAYERS.
- 3. PLEASE ADVISE. CHRISTOPHER

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